

BIOGRAPHY

Ben Kauffeld

Senior Alliance Advisor



Ben Kauffeld is a Senior Advisor with the Office of the Global Development Alliance (GDA) at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Office of Development Partners for Private Sector Alliances (ODP/PSA). In this role, he facilitates public-private alliances that are responsive to vital humanitarian assistance concerns, and for fostering preparedness and response to disasters in developing countries.

In a world environment that is witnessing greater numbers of natural disasters and challenging complex emergencies, Mr. Kauffeld believes, alliances between public and private-sector partners are essential in order to build community resilience before disasters strike, and to fully meet the extent of human needs in the aftermath of disasters. He is working to build on successful partnership initiatives that have developed out of responses to recent catastrophic disasters such as the Indian Ocean Tsunami and the South Asian Earthquake.

Before joining GDA, Mr. Kauffeld served as the Humanitarian Assistance Program Manager at the USAID mission in Sri Lanka from 2004 – 2007. In this capacity, he managed, oversaw, monitored and evaluated a diverse program portfolio that provided social services to targeted vulnerable populations, including people with disabilities, children affected by conflict, and people living with HIV/AIDS. After the Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004, Mr. Kauffeld managed 18 grants which provided relief aid through non-food item distribution, water and sanitation, transitional shelter, cash-for-work and psychosocial interventions. He also initiated and managed longer-term reconstruction programming, including a program to restore children's physical and social wellbeing by building 85 playgrounds. In 2005, Mr. Kauffeld received a USAID Superior Group Award for his performance in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean Tsunami.

From 2003 – 2004, Mr. Kauffeld was a Program Officer for southern Sudan in the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, providing oversight and program management on a \$30 million emergency assistance portfolio. He also served as an Assistant Economic Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr. Kauffeld brings to the GDA experience coordinating relief efforts for international humanitarian organizations. He served the American Red Cross as a Country Representative in both Albania and Serbia, and provided disaster assistance services in Florida. Mr. Kauffeld was also a Field Officer for the UN World Food Programme in southern Sudan.

Mr. Kauffeld has a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies and Humanities from Pepperdine University and a Master of Arts degree in African Area Studies from the University of California at Los Angeles.